

'Taraba' Fauna Survey Report 18th – 22nd Oct 2016

Site Harp trap 3 at Coomonga Creek Field Day site



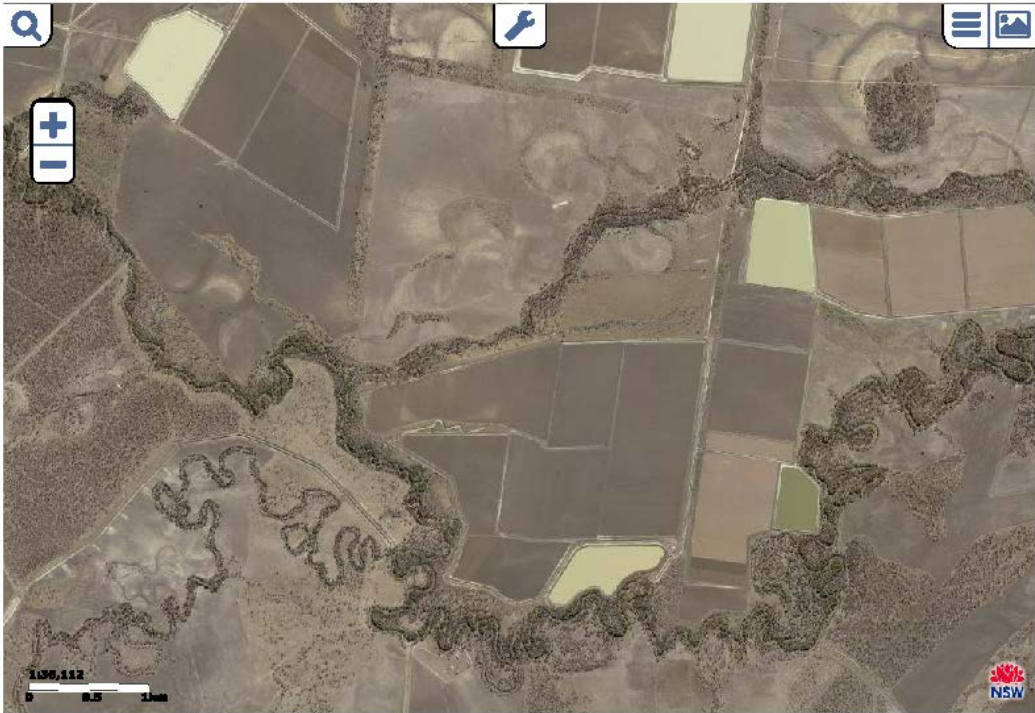
Site 1 tributary to Macintyre River



Locations of survey sites in GDA 94

Site	Grid Reference	Date	Altitude
1 Fyke trap	S28.62914 E149.70443	10/20/2016 7:47:55 AM	192 m
4 Turtle traps	S28.62938 E149.70485	10/20/2016 7:35:57 AM	188 m
Camp	S28.63150 E149.70355	10/20/2016 6:52:56 AM	183 m
HARP 1 Macintyre River	S28.63269 E149.69436	10/19/2016 5:15:25 PM	173 m
HARP 2 Macintyre River	S28.61800 E149.66491	10/20/2016 10:27:51 AM	189 m
HARP 3 Coomonga Creek	S28.60032 E149.68651	10/20/2016 10:44:59 AM	191 m
Site 1 Coolibah - River Red Gum	S28.63028 E149.70473	10/20/2016 7:24:11 AM	187 m
Site 2 Bimble box - Budda	S28.55727 E149.73330	10/24/2016 12:29:02 PM	195 m
Site 3 Carbeen - Red Gum	S28.55066 E149.71335	10/20/2016 11:29:04 AM	195 m
Site 3 end of Elliott trap line	S28.55003 E149.71491	10/20/2016 11:46:40 AM	196 m





Google map of the sites surveyed on the property Taraba at Toobeah Queensland



Methodology

The methodology maximised the identification opportunities to record the threatened species likely to occur.

Both systematic and opportunistic survey methods were used to identify and record as many fauna species as possible within the project area.

The methods applied were: Pit trapping, Cage Trapping, Elliott Trapping, Funnel Trapping, Harp Trapping, Camera Recording, Bird census, Nocturnal call playback, Spotlighting, and Habitat searches.

All pits and traps were checked in the first two hours of daylight each morning, captured animals were identified, recorded and released. Bats were released in the evening at the same location, and pit trap captures released 30 metres away from the pit traps.

Site Selection

The extent of the project area was initially inspected to identify the habitats of the study area based on the vegetation types, soil types and disturbance history.

From that reconnaissance three locations were identified for pit trapping that sampled the least disturbed and most species diverse community within the study area.

Pit trapping

Pit trapping systematically sampled for small mammals, reptiles, and frogs from 18th to 22nd October 2016. Lines of pit traps were located across paths where fauna were most likely to be travelling between refuges.

A pit trap line consisted of 7 x 20 litre steel buckets set in the ground 3.2m apart along the 22 metre drift fence. The drift fence was a corrugated iron fence approximately 40 cm high hammered into the ground to provide a barrier between each bucket, and 1m past each of the end buckets. The buckets were kept clean of dirt and a hole drained away any water that collected, two sheets of paper towel and a wet sponge were placed in the bottom to provide shade and shelter.

Monitoring of the pits was conducted each morning for 4 days.

Table 1 provides the GDA 94 grid references for the pit trap locations and Figure 1 shows their locations within the project area.

Funnel Trapping

Six funnel traps were set along the drift fences to capture larger reptiles and frogs that would escape from the pit buckets. Six more funnel traps were set along logs in the near vicinity.

Cage Trapping

Two cage traps baited with sardines were set at the two locations on the Macintyre River at site 1 and Harp 1 and an Infrared Camera set on each trap.

Bird census

Birds heard or observed were recorded opportunistically over the four days along the tracks, camp and at each trapping locations.

Spotlighting

Spotlighting for mammals, frogs, and reptiles was conducted for over one hour at sites 1, 2 and 3 and Harp Trap 3 on Coomonga Creek. Spotlighting was done on foot with a 30 watt light and gel cell battery.

Nocturnal bird and mammal call playback

Prior to spotlighting, playback of nocturnal bird and mammal calls was conducted at each of the sites.

Playback used a 13 Watt megaphone and MP3 recording of bird and mammal calls, to elicit responses from the Barking Owl, Koala, and Bush Stone Curlew. The mammal calls were played after the owl calls.

Each call was played for three minutes.

A two minute listening period was observed between each call, and 10 minute listening periods occurred at the beginning and end of each playback session.

Habitat searching

Habitat searching was conducted for over one hour at each of the sites. Habitats under log debris and grass litter were searched for reptiles, frogs, and small mammals. Scats and other evidence of animal presence were searched for concurrently.

Harp Trapping

Harp traps were set between trees along tracks at three locations for two nights duration. Trapped bats were identified and released in the evening at the same location.

Fyke Trap & Turtle Trapping

1 Fyke trap, 2 Cathedral traps, and 2 Modified Crab traps were set in the Macintyre River at site 1.

Opportunistic Records – All other fauna observed opportunistically when travelling around were recorded for the species list.

Weather Conditions

Daily weather summary of period 18th – 22nd Oct 2016

date	min to 9am	anomaly	max from 9am	anomaly	rain to 9am
	°C	°C	°C	°C	mm
Tue 18/10/2016	7.0	-6.6	26.2	-3.2	2.4
Wed 19/10/2016	8.7	-4.9	28.9	-0.5	0.0
Thu 20/10/2016	8.1	-5.5	31.2	+1.8	0.0
Fri 21/10/2016	15.4	+1.8	32.6	+3.2	0.0
Sat 22/10/2016	18.4	+4.8	22.2	-7.2	22.8

RESULTS

Fish Recorded At Taraba Toobeah Queensland

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status	Recorded
Goldfish	<i>Carassius auratus</i>	Exotic	few
Carp	<i>Cyprinus carpio</i>	Exotic	100's
Golden Perch	<i>Macquaria ambigua</i>		3
Silver Perch	<i>Bidyanus bidyanus</i>	Vul	1
Western Carp Gudgeon	<i>Hypseleotris klunzingeri</i>		10
Dam Yabby	<i>Cherax destructor</i>		1
Australian Smelt	<i>Retropinna semoni</i>		6
Bony Bream	<i>Nematalosa erebi</i>		20
Silver Catfish - Moonfish	<i>Neosilurus hyrtlil</i>		1
Murray Darling Rainbowfish	<i>Melanotaenia fluviatilis</i>		20
Freshwater Prawn	<i>Macrobrachium australiense</i>		1,000's

Frogs Recorded At Taraba Toobeah Queensland

Scientific Name	Common Name	Legal Status	Site 1 Macintyre River - cracking grey clay	Site 2 Bimble box - Budda Brown clay	Site 3 Carbeen - Red gum sandy duplex	Coomonga Creek Harp 3
<i>Cyclorana platycephala</i>	Water-holding Frog	P	1			
<i>Litoria alboguttata</i>	Striped Burrowing Frog	P	10			10
<i>Litoria latopalmata</i>	Broad-palmed Frog	P	20			10
<i>Litoria peronii</i>	Peron's Tree Frog	P	6			2
<i>Litoria rubella</i>	Desert Tree Frog	P	2			
<i>Crinia parinsignifera</i>	Eastern Sign-bearing Froglet	P	2			
<i>Crinia deserticola</i>	Desert Froglet	P	20			10
<i>Limnodynastes fletcheri</i>	Long-thumbed Frog	P	20			6
<i>Platyplectrum ornatum</i>	Ornate Burrowing Frog	P	1			
<i>Limnodynastes salmini</i>	Salmon-striped Frog	P	1			
<i>Limnodynastes tasmaniensis</i>	Spotted Marsh Frog	P	20	4		6
<i>Notaden bennettii</i>	Holy Cross Toad	P		1		
<i>Uperoleia rugosa</i>	Wrinkled Toadlet	P		2		

Reptiles Recorded At Taraba Toobeah Queensland

Scientific Name	Common Name	Legal Status	Site 1 Macintyre River - cracking grey clay	Site 2 Bimble box - Budda Brown clay	Site 3 Carbeen - Red gum sandy duplex	Coomonga Creek Harp 3
<i>Amphibolurus burnsi</i>	Burn's Dragon	P	1	1		
<i>Pogona barbata</i>	Eastern Bearded Dragon	P		1		
<i>Chelodina expansa</i>	Broad-shelled Snake-necked Turtle	P	3			
<i>Chelodina longicollis</i>	Eastern Snake-necked Turtle	P				1
<i>Emydura macquarii</i>	Murray Short-necked Turtle	P	3			
<i>Denisonia devisi</i>	De Vis's Banded Snake	P				1
<i>Hemiaspis damelii</i>	Grey Snake	P				1
<i>Hoplocephalus bitorquatus</i>	Pale-headed Snake	Vul TSC	1			
<i>Pseudechis porphyriacus</i>	Red-bellied Black Snake	P	2		1	
<i>Suta suta</i>	Curl Snake	P		1		
<i>Ramphotyphlops wiedii</i>	Brown-snouted Blind Snake	P	1			
<i>Diplodactylus vittatus</i>	Eastern Stone Gecko	P		1		
<i>Gehyra dubia</i>	Dubious Dtella	P	4	1		4
<i>Heteronotia binoei</i>	Prickly Gecko	P	2	2	2	1
<i>Cryptoblepharus pulcher</i>	Pretty Snake-eyed Skink	P	2		2	
<i>Egernia striolata</i>	Tree-crevice Skink	P	1		1	
<i>Lerista timida</i>	Dwarf Three-toed Slider	P	1			
<i>Lygisaurus foliorum</i>	Tree-base Litter-skink	P	2			
<i>Menetia greyii</i>	Common Dwarf Skink	P		1		
	South-eastern Morethia					
<i>Morethia boulengeri</i>	Skink	P	2	2		
<i>Varanus gouldii</i>	Sand Monitor	P		1		
<i>Varanus varius</i>	Lace Monitor	P		1		
<i>Tiliqua scincoides</i>	Common Bluetongue	P		1		

Mammals Recorded At Taraba Toobeah Queensland

Scientific Name	Common Name	Legal Status	Site 1 Macintyre River - cracking grey clay	Site 2 Bimble box - Budda Brown clay	Site 3 Carbeen - Red gum sandy duplex	Coomonga Creek Harp 3
<i>Macropus giganteus</i>	Eastern Grey Kangaroo	P	20			4
<i>Macropus rufus</i>	Red Kangaroo	P	2	2		
<i>Wallabia bicolor</i>	Swamp Wallaby	P	1		1	
<i>Tachyglossus aculeatus</i>	Short-beaked Echidna	P	1			
<i>Trichosurus vulpecula</i>	Common Brushtail Possum	P			2	2
<i>Chalinolobus gouldii</i>	Gould's Wattled Bat	P	1			2
<i>Nyctophilus geoffroyi</i>	Lesser Long-eared Bat	P	1			1
<i>Nyctophilus gouldi</i>	Gould's Long-eared Bat	P	1			1
<i>Scotorepens greyii</i>	Little Broad-nosed Bat	P				1
<i>Vespadelus vulturnus</i>	Little Forest Bat	P	1			1
<i>Mormopterus sp. (little penis)</i>	Inland Freetail Bat	P				1
<i>Vulpes vulpes</i>	Fox	U	1			
<i>Felis catus</i>	Cat	U	2			
<i>Lepus capensis</i>	Brown Hare	U	2	2	2	
<i>Oryctolagus cuniculus</i>	Rabbit	U			1	
<i>Mus musculus</i>	House Mouse	U	1	1	2	
<i>Sus scrofa</i>	Pig	U	10			

Birds Recorded at Taraba Toobeah Queensland

Scientific Name	Common Name	Legal Status	Count
<i>Acanthiza nana</i>	Yellow Thornbill	P	2
<i>Acanthiza apicalis</i>	Inland Thornbill	P	2
<i>Smicromnis brevirostris</i>	Weebill	P	2
<i>Aquila audax</i>	Wedge-tailed Eagle	P	1
<i>Haliaeetus leucogaster</i>	White-bellied Sea-Eagle	Mig EPBC	1
<i>Haliastur sphenurus</i>	Whistling Kite	P	2
<i>Anas gracilis</i>	Grey Teal	P	2
<i>Anas superciliosa</i>	Pacific Black Duck	P	2
<i>Chenonetta jubata</i>	Australian Wood Duck	P	6
<i>Dendrocygna eytoni</i>	Plumed Whistling-Duck	P	20
<i>Anhinga melanogaster</i>	Darter	P	2
<i>Egretta novaehollandiae</i>	White-faced Heron	P	1
<i>Egretta garzetta</i>	Little Egret	P	1
<i>Ardea pacifica</i>	White-necked Heron	P	2
<i>Ardea intermedia</i>	Intermediate Egret	P	4
<i>Nycticorax caledonicus</i>	Nankeen Night Heron	P	10
<i>Cracticus torquatus</i>	Grey Butcherbird	P	1
	White-breasted		
<i>Artamus leucorhynchus</i>	Woodswallow	P	2
<i>Gymnorhina tibicen</i>	Australian Magpie	P	2
<i>Cacatua galerita</i>	Sulphur-crested Cockatoo	P	10
<i>Cacatua sanguinea</i>	Little Corella	P	10
<i>Eolophus roseicapillus</i>	Galah	P	10
<i>Coracina novaehollandiae</i>	Black-faced Cuckoo-shrike	P	1
<i>Lalage tricolor</i>	White-winged Triller	P	2
<i>Dromaius novaehollandiae</i>	Emu	P	1
<i>Vanellus miles</i>	Masked Lapwing	P	4
<i>Climacteris picumnus</i>	Brown Treecreeper	P	2
<i>Columba livia</i>	Feral Pigeon	Introduced	1
<i>Geopelia humeralis</i>	Bar-shouldered Dove	P	2
<i>Geopelia placida</i>	Peaceful Dove	P	4
<i>Ocyphaps lophotes</i>	Crested Pigeon	P	6
<i>Eurystomus orientalis</i>	Dollarbird	P	1
<i>Corcorax melanorhamphos</i>	White-winged Chough	P	1
<i>Corvus coronoides</i>	Australian Raven	P	1

<i>Scythrops novaehollandiae</i>	Channel-billed Cuckoo	P	1
<i>Dicaeum hirundinaceum</i>	Mistletoebird	P	1
<i>Rhipidura leucophrys</i>	Willie Wagtail	P	1
<i>Grallina cyanoleuca</i>	Magpie-lark	P	2
<i>Myiagra inquieta</i>	Restless Flycatcher	P	2
<i>Dacelo novaeguineae</i>	Laughing Kookaburra	P	1
<i>Todiramphus sanctus</i>	Sacred Kingfisher	P	2
<i>Malurus cyaneus</i>	Superb Fairy-wren	P	1
<i>Manorina melanocephala</i>	Noisy Miner	P	1
<i>Philemon citreogularis</i>	Little Friarbird	P	1
<i>Plectorhyncha lanceolata</i>	Striped Honeyeater	P	1
<i>Merops ornatus</i>	Rainbow Bee-eater	Mig EPBC	1
<i>Anthus novaeseelandiae</i>	Richards Pipit	P	1
<i>Oriolus sagittatus</i>	Olive-backed Oriole	P	1
<i>Colluricincla harmonica</i>	Grey Shrike-thrush	P	1
<i>Pardalotus striatus</i>	Striated Pardalote	P	1
<i>Eopsaltria australis</i>	Eastern Yellow Robin	P	1
<i>Microeca fascinans</i>	Jacky Winter	P	1
<i>Phalacrocorax sulcirostris</i>	Little Black Cormorant	P	2
<i>Phalacrocorax melanoleucos</i>	Little Pied Cormorant	P	4
<i>Coturnix ypsilophora</i>	Brown Quail	P	1
<i>Podargus strigoides</i>	Tawny Frogmouth	P	1
<i>Psephotus haematonotus</i>	Red-rumped Parrot	P	4
<i>Gallinula tenebrosa</i>	Dusky Moorhen	P	2
<i>Ninox boobook</i>	Southern Boobook	P	1
<i>Ninox connivens</i>	Barking Owl	Vul TSC	1
<i>Acridotheres tristis</i>	Common Myna	Introduced	1
<i>Cinclorhamphus mathewsi</i>	Rufous Songlark	P	1
<i>Platalea regia</i>	Royal Spoonbill	P	6
<i>Threskiornis molucca</i>	Australian White Ibis	P	6
<i>Tyto alba</i>	Barn Owl	P	1
<i>Platycercus adscitus</i>	Pale-headed Rosella	P	1
<i>Nymphicus hollandicus</i>	Cockatiel	P	1
<i>Corvus orru</i>	Torresian Crow	P	1
<i>Struthidea cinerea</i>	Apostlebird	P	1

<i>Taeniopygia guttata</i>	Zebra Finch	P	1
<i>Manorina flavigula</i>	Yellow-throated Miner	P	1
<i>Lichmera indistincta</i>	Brown Honeyeater	P	1
<i>Pomatostomus temporalis</i>	Grey-crowned Babbler	Vul TSC	1
<i>Cinclorhamphus cruralis</i>	Brown Songlark	P	1
<i>Northiella haematogaster</i>	Blue Bonnet	P	2
<i>Aprosmictus erythropterus</i>	Red-winged Parrot	P	6